

OLL-84-2980

OMB

Office of Legislative Liaison
Routing Slip

TO:	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OLL		X
3. DD/OLL		X
3. Admin Officer		
4. Liaison		
5. Legislation	X	
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SUSPENSE

31 AUG 84
Date

Action Officer:

AUG 84

Name/Date

STAT
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Office of Legislative Liaison Routing Slip

TO:

	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OLL		✓
3. DD/OLL		✓
3. Admin Officer		
4. Liaison		
5. Legislation	✓	
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SUSPENSE

8-31-84
Date

Action Officer:

Remarks:

Name/Date

8/27/84

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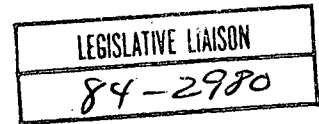


EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

August 23, 1984

Record
OMB
SPECIAL

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM



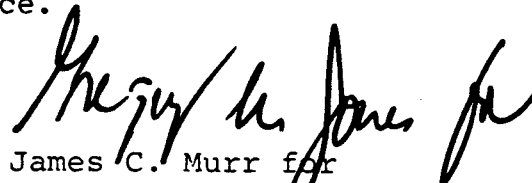
TO: Legislative Liaison Officer
Department of Justice
Central Intelligence Agency
Department of Defense
National Security Council
Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: Department of the Treasury views on S. 1787.

The Office of Management and Budget requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President, in accordance with OMB Circular A-19.

A response to this request for your views is needed no later than
September 5, 1984

Questions should be referred to Gregory Jones (395-3856), the legislative analyst in this office.


James C. Murr for
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

cc: Richard Williams Frank Kalder
Russ Neeley

R5-6/83.2
Jones



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

AUG 20 1984

Director, Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President
Washington, DC 20503

Attention: Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Dear Sir:

This responds to your request for the Treasury Department's views on the Department of Justice's letter on S. 1787.

The Department of the Treasury continues to oppose legislation that would create a new bureaucracy with policy and budgetary control over the departments and agencies with major responsibilities in the fight against drug abuse and drug trafficking. To this end, we have previously objected to H.R. 4028 which, like S. 1787, would supplant some of the existing coordination mechanisms that this Administration has initiated in its overall drug strategy.

While we can understand the Department of Justice's view that S. 1787 may be the lesser of two evils, we nevertheless believe that the bill should be considered on its own. We strongly object to S. 1787 because it would authorize an unnecessary intrusion into the budgetary, and hence policy, decisions of other departments and agencies. We take specific exception to Section 4(c)(3), which alters the existing review procedure for budgetary decision-making with regard to reprogramming.

The changes in authority that S. 1787 would accomplish are unnecessary ones. The existing coordination mechanisms, such as the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy (CCLP), the Drug Supply Reduction Work Group of the CCLP, the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces, and the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System, all of which this Administration has carefully developed over the last three and a half years, are now providing the necessary policy review functions that S. 1787 endeavors to create. What is more, these coordinating mechanisms accomplish their purpose in a way that allows each department and agency the degree of autonomy necessary to carry out the functions it is charged by law to perform. As a further indication that the intent of this bill is misguided, the major Federal initiatives directed against drug-related crime in the past three years have been pursuant to an overall strategy, approved at the White House level, that recognizes and utilizes the unique contributions that each department and agency brings to the overall effort.

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The carefully-struck balance between the degree of interagency coordination and the retention of the ability of each participating entity to determine, within broad policy goals established by the President, how to apply its resources, has been a central principle of this Administration's drug enforcement strategy to date. It would be unwise to risk upsetting this balance in the manner proposed by S. 1787.

For these reasons, Treasury cannot agree with the position taken by the Justice Department with respect to S. 1787 and recommends that this Administration strenuously oppose this bill, as well as any legislation that would similarly compromise the authority of Federal departments and agencies with responsibilities in drug enforcement.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margery Waxman".

Margery Waxman
Deputy General Counsel